

The Grain Offering | Leviticus 2

Sermon Notes for Online

The Grain Offering | Leviticus 2:1-16

The Burnt Offering from Lev.1 offers atonement, the grain offering expresses worship.

Longman & Garland The burnt and grain offerings together represent two basic elements of the offerer's concerns before God: to restore and maintain one's relationship with God and to express thanks and praise for God-given blessings.

Big Idea: All of God's people are invited to **worship** him in Joy, Gratitude, and Faith.

We not only *talk* about our dedication to God; we *demonstrate* it.

Grain Offering Description

- A Free Will Offering | 2:1
- Fine Flour | 2:1
- Pour Oil on it | 2:1
- Put Frankincense on it | 2:1
- Offer with Salt | 2:13
- Priest Burns a Handful | 2:2
- Priests Share the Rest | 2:3, 10
- Cooked Offerings Allowed | 2:4-9
- No Yeast or "Honey" | 2:11
- Firstfruits Offerings | 2:14-16

Grain Offering Significance

- Grain/Bread = Life
- Oil = Joy, the Holy Spirit, Priests, Prophets, Kings Anointed with Oil
- Frankincense = Pleasing Aroma, Worship, Censors in Tabernacle, Jesus' Birth
- Salt = Connection to the Everlasting Covenant between God and Israel
- Cooked Offerings = Every Economic Level Invited to Worship
- No Yeast = Represents Sin and Corruption, is a Living Organism
- No "Honey" = Could be catalyst for natural yeasts in grain, unembellished offerings

Grain Offering Connections

- Historical Connections Genesis 18 / Judges 6
- A Heart of Worship, Gratitude, Joy, Faith, Dedication (*minchah* = tribute to a king)
- Jesus is our Bread of Life / Bethlehem = “House of Bread”
- “Give us this day our daily bread...” Matthew 6:11
- Sacrificial and Costly Worship shows how we value God (or effort and care)
- Remember our Everlasting Covenant with God = “Do this in remembrance of me.”
- Provision for the “Leaders of Worship”, Levites’ Inheritance (1 Corinthians 9:13-14)
- Celebrate God’s provisions and enjoy his blessings (Hebrews 13:15-16)
- Worshippers remove sin and corruption from our lives

Provision for Church Employees

1 Corinthians 9:13-14 (CSB) 13 Don’t you know that those who perform the temple services eat the food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the offerings of the altar? 14 In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should earn their living by the gospel.

Continual Offerings / Sacrifices to God

Hebrews 13:15-15 (CSB) 15 Therefore, through him let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. 16 Don’t neglect to do what is good and to share, for God is pleased with such sacrifices.

Allan Moseley Scores of statements in the Bible emphasize that God’s people cannot offer acceptable worship to God if the way we’re living is not acceptable to God. In other words, don’t come to worship and make a show of being right with God only to leave worship and go back to sin. That doesn’t mean that sinners are not welcome in worship. The difference between the people who offer right worship and those who don’t is not that right worshipers are not sinners. The difference is that right worshipers know they are sinners, they know they need God, and they know they need atonement and salvation that only come from God in Christ.

Next Steps

- Are you giving offerings to God?
- How is your heart when giving?
- Are you giving your best or leftovers?
- Does your worship reflect God’s value to you?

Discussion Questions

- What does “free will” offering mean to you and why do we sometimes want God to command a certain offering from us?
- If grain/bread was a symbol of life for the people of Israel, what would be a corresponding symbol for us today?
- How does giving offerings play an important part of our worship?
- Why is it important that giving offerings be costly to the worshiper?
- How would a worshiper have to plan ahead to be able to give a costly offering?
- What does it say about God that he made provision for people of all economic levels to participate in worship through offerings? How does this translate into our worship today?
- What baggage or hang-ups might you have about giving offerings through the church?
- Why is money and the management of money a touchy subject in churches?
- How is giving a food offering (like grain/bread) in Leviticus different from giving food to idols/false gods?

Prayer Points

- Pray that God will enrich our worship of him through a better understanding of the sacrifices and offerings in Leviticus.
- Pray that each worshiper at Sound City Bible Church will feel led to worship through free-will offerings proportionate to the way God has blessed them.
- Pray for healing for individuals who have been harmed in the past by church leaders that wrongly emphasized money or misused the offerings given to God.
- Pray a blessing on the offerings brought to God through our church that God will guide the church to use them for his purposes, the advancement of his kingdom, and the exaltation of Jesus.

Text

1“When anyone presents a grain offering as an offering to the Lord, it is to consist of fine flour. He is to pour olive oil on it, put frankincense on it, 2 and bring it to Aaron’s sons the priests. The priest will take a handful of fine flour and oil from it, along with all its frankincense, and will burn this memorial portion of it on the altar, a food offering, a pleasing aroma to the Lord. 3 But the rest of the grain offering will belong to Aaron and his sons; it is the holiest part of the food offerings to the Lord.

4 “When you present a grain offering baked in an oven, it is to be made of fine flour, either unleavened cakes mixed with oil or unleavened wafers coated with oil. 5 If your offering is a grain offering prepared on a griddle, it is to be unleavened bread made of fine flour mixed with oil. 6 Break it into pieces and pour oil on it; it is a grain offering. 7 If your offering is a grain offering prepared in a pan, it is to be made of fine flour with oil. 8 When you bring to the Lord the grain offering made in any of these ways, it is to be presented to the priest, and he will take it to the altar. 9 The priest will remove the memorial portion[a] from the grain offering and burn it on the altar, a food offering, a pleasing aroma to the Lord. 10 But the rest of the grain offering will belong to Aaron and his sons; it is the holiest part of the food offerings to the Lord.

11 “No grain offering that you present to the Lord is to be made with yeast, for you are not to burn[b] any yeast or honey as a food offering to the Lord. 12 You may present them to the Lord as an offering of firstfruits, but they are not to be offered on the altar as a pleasing aroma. 13 You are to season each of your grain offerings with salt; you must not omit from your grain offering the salt of the covenant with your God. You are to present salt with each of your offerings.

14 “If you present a grain offering of firstfruits to the Lord, you are to present fresh heads of grain, crushed kernels, roasted on the fire, for your grain offering of firstfruits. 15 You are to put oil and frankincense on it; it is a grain offering. 16 The priest will then burn some of its crushed kernels and oil with all its frankincense as a food offering to the Lord.